



General Assembly

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Amendment

LCO No. 5806

SB0034405806SD0

Offered by:

SEN. HARRIS, 5th Dist.
REP. VILLANO, 91st Dist.
REP. ABERCROMBIE, 83rd Dist.
SEN. COLEMAN, 2nd Dist.
SEN. KISSEL, 7th Dist.
REP. GIBBONS, 150th Dist.
REP. MUSHINSKY, 85th Dist.

REP. KIRKLEY-BEY, 5th Dist.
REP. WALKER, 93rd Dist.
SEN. HARP, 10th Dist.
SEN. HANDLEY, 4th Dist.
REP. TRUGLIA, 145th Dist.
REP. MORRIS, 140th Dist.

To: Subst. Senate Bill No. 344

File No. 594

Cal. No. 391

**"AN ACT CONCERNING FAMILY PROSPERITY AND THE
RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE CHILD POVERTY AND
PREVENTION COUNCIL."**

1 Strike everything after the enacting clause and substitute the
2 following in lieu thereof:

3 "Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2008*) (a) As used in sections 1
4 to 5, inclusive, of this act:

5 (1) "Poverty reduction strategies" means a coordinated set of actions
6 which may include, but is not limited to, job search and work
7 experience; education and training, including adult basic education,
8 high school equivalency preparation, adult literacy classes, vocational
9 training and post-secondary education; payment of tuition; case

10 management; related services that improve employability; income
11 safety net services; quality child care during work and job training;
12 family support; and reentry programs, that are based on best practices
13 and aimed at reducing poverty or the risk of poverty for individuals
14 and families (A) who are living in census tracts with high poverty
15 rates, (B) whose incomes are at or below two hundred per cent of the
16 federal poverty level, and (C) who are in one or more of the following
17 target populations: (i) Adolescent parents, (ii) older adolescents and
18 young adults, or (iii) low-income working families; and

19 (2) "Food stamp employment and training community
20 collaborative" means a consortium of public and private providers,
21 established pursuant to section 3 of this act, to implement poverty
22 reduction strategies.

23 Sec. 2. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2008*) (a) The Department of Social
24 Services shall administer a food stamp employment and training
25 program, authorized under the federal Food Stamp Act of 1977, as
26 amended from time to time, to provide employment and training
27 activities, support services and other programs and services for
28 recipients of the food stamp program. The program shall provide for
29 the receipt of federal matching funds to the state from the United
30 States Department of Agriculture for funds expended on behalf of food
31 stamp recipients by state agencies, local governments, nonprofit
32 entities, institutions of higher education and other eligible food stamp
33 employment and training providers for employment and training
34 activities that qualify for such matching funds under federal law and
35 regulations. The department shall seek to maximize the use of the
36 federal matching funds provision under the program to the fullest
37 extent permitted by federal law.

38 (b) Federal grants received under the program shall be used in
39 accordance with federal law and regulations to fund food stamp
40 employment and training activities.

41 (c) The department shall select providers whose employment and

42 training activities qualify for reimbursement under federal law and
43 regulations to participate in the federal matching funds provision of
44 the food stamp employment and training program. Providers shall be
45 selected in a form and manner prescribed by the Commissioner of
46 Social Services. In selecting providers, the department shall give
47 priority to providers who are members of a food stamp employment
48 and training community collaborative and whose strategies are aligned
49 with the recommendations of the Child Poverty and Prevention
50 Council and its plan to reduce child poverty developed pursuant to
51 section 4-67x of the general statutes.

52 (d) The department shall distribute to providers pursuant to
53 subsection (c) of this section federal matching funds in accordance
54 with section 4 of this act. Such funds shall be used for poverty
55 reduction strategies.

56 Sec. 3. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2008*) (a) The Department of Social
57 Services shall select among qualified food stamp employment and
58 training community collaboratives to receive federal matching funds in
59 accordance with section 4 of this act. To be considered for receipt of
60 such funds, each collaborative shall demonstrate its capacity to
61 implement poverty reduction strategies to the department in such
62 form and in such manner as the Commissioner of Social Services
63 prescribes. Each collaborative shall identify (1) its priorities for
64 reducing child poverty in such municipality or region, (2) how funds
65 that are received by the collaborative will be utilized, (3) community
66 partners and resources utilized to support poverty reduction
67 strategies, and (4) its capacity to collect relevant data and measure
68 outcomes.

69 (b) Each food stamp employment and training community
70 collaborative shall establish a governance structure, determine
71 membership and identify or establish a fiscal agent. A collaborative
72 shall consist of at least five member entities representing institutions of
73 higher education, regional workforce development boards, social
74 services nonprofit agencies, business associations, philanthropic

75 organizations, municipalities, community action agencies or other
76 community partners. A majority of the membership of each
77 collaborative shall be food stamp employment and training providers.

78 (c) Funds provided to a food stamp employment and training
79 community collaborative shall be used to implement poverty
80 reduction strategies in a municipality or region. Such strategies shall
81 be aligned with the recommendations of the Child Poverty and
82 Prevention Council and its plan to reduce child poverty developed
83 pursuant to section 4-67x of the general statutes.

84 Sec. 4. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2008*) (a) For the fiscal year ending
85 June 30, 2009, the Department of Social Services may use such funds
86 from the federal matching funds received by the state pursuant to
87 section 2 of this act as are needed for operating expenses and to
88 employ one staff position for purposes directly related to the
89 administration of the matching funds provision for the food stamp
90 employment and training program, and for any fiscal year thereafter
91 may use such funds as is necessary to operate and administer said
92 program.

93 (b) The remaining federal matching funds received by the state
94 pursuant to section 2 of this act shall be used for poverty reduction
95 strategies and distributed in the following manner: Seventy-five per
96 cent of such remaining funds shall be provided to food stamp
97 employment and training providers whose expenditures generated the
98 federal matching funds on a pro-rata basis, pursuant to section 2 of this
99 act; and twenty-five per cent of such remaining funds shall be
100 provided to food stamp employment and training community
101 collaboratives selected pursuant to section 3 of this act for
102 implementation of poverty reduction strategies.

103 Sec. 5. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2008*) On or before January 15,
104 2009, and annually thereafter from January 15, 2010, to January 15,
105 2014, inclusive, the Commissioner of Social Services shall report, in
106 accordance with section 11-4a of the general statutes, to the joint

107 standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of
 108 matters relating to human services and appropriations, and to the
 109 Child Poverty and Prevention Council on the amount of federal
 110 matching funds received by the state pursuant to section 2 of this act,
 111 the amount used by the Department of Social Services for operating
 112 and administrative expenses, the amounts distributed to providers and
 113 food stamp employment and training community collaboratives
 114 pursuant to section 4 of this act, the use of such federal matching
 115 funds, including the population served, and the programs' outcomes
 116 using a results-based accountability framework.

117 Sec. 6. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2008*) The Department of Social
 118 Services, in conjunction with the member agencies of the Child Poverty
 119 and Prevention Council, may work with local governments,
 120 institutions of higher education, community action agencies and other
 121 entities to continue and expand efforts, within available
 122 appropriations, to enroll eligible individuals in the food stamp
 123 program and to enroll eligible food stamp participants in education,
 124 employment and training activities."

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>October 1, 2008</i>	New section
Sec. 2	<i>October 1, 2008</i>	New section
Sec. 3	<i>October 1, 2008</i>	New section
Sec. 4	<i>October 1, 2008</i>	New section
Sec. 5	<i>October 1, 2008</i>	New section
Sec. 6	<i>October 1, 2008</i>	New section